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WILLIAM M. LAFAN.
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Make It Republican.

Our Democratic friends are inclined to play possum in regard to the election of the next House of Representatives. Every now and then some Democratic sage says, with a face graver than a grave image, that he is unable to see how the election of a Democratic House would help the Democratic party. Such confessions, if genuine, would be either an offensive lie or a fatal truth admitting the incapacity of the Democracy to have any responsible share in the government of the country. But they are palpably bogus. They are the patter of the juggling while he does his trick. The Democrats are working like Trojans to get a majority in the next House; and if they should succeed, they would boast tremendously and with some reason.

The Republican argument is that the nation is prosperous, all business booming and the people are content. If the people show they are not content, what becomes of the argument?

In the greatest State in the Union the Democratic party is now committed to Socialism. It has thrown over Jefferson for Karl Marx. In other States also, Ohio, Wisconsin, Idaho, for example, its platforms or its candidates advocate similar wide-reaching changes and the enlargement of the scope of Federal powers. Government ownership of the railroads, telegraphs and telephones is favored. What used to be known as Bryanism is tame and timid conservatism by the side of the new Democratic policies, Hillism and Tompkinsism.

The coal strike has inflamed all the Democratic demagogues, all the flighty and restless spirits, all the cranks. The election of a Democratic House would be taken as proof of popular approval of Democratic radicalism.

Inevitably, also, it would be taken as an indication of the probability of Democratic success in 1903. It would depress values and unsettle business. Disturbance and anxiety would pervade the world of finance and commerce.

Whatever happens in local elections, the return of a Republican House is important, not merely or chiefly to Republicans, but to the interests of business, to the preservation of prosperity and to the maintenance of conservative principles.

The Pious Fund Decision.

Gratifying as it is to Americans that the Arbitration Court sitting at The Hague has decided the "Pious Fund" case between Mexico and the United States in our favor, it is of great importance to the world that the first test of the international arbitration machinery erected by The Hague Conference in 1899, made at the instance of two American republics, should have been successful.

The question at issue was whether the change of nationality of a beneficiary relieved a country from its obligations as trustee, and grew out of the agreement made by Mexico in 1832, by which that country undertook to pay a yearly sum to the Roman Catholic Church in California, then a part of the southern republic. In 1848 California was ceded to the United States; and the Mexican claim was that the cession extinguished the relations of trustee and beneficiary theretofore existing. The Court of Arbitration decided that that relation still existed, and condemned Mexico to pay arrears since 1899.

The principle involved and upheld is not new; the amount at issue, less than \$300,000, is not great; but the application of the two countries to the Permanent Court, and the prompt decision, go to pave the way for further arbitrations, and are important for that reason. It is pleasant that the decision is in favor of the United States, but even more gratifying that appeal was made to the Permanent Court of Arbitration.

The Automobile Test.

The Contest Committee of the Automobile Club of America has not yet made its final report upon the "reliability" run between New York and Boston, which ended last Wednesday, but sufficient information is now at hand to afford a fairly accurate idea of its value. The single fact that all but seven of the seventy-five vehicles which started, and which represented the product of over thirty different manufacturers, finished in good condition proves that automobile making in America has passed the stage of experiment and attained the dignity of a great and well-ordered industry.

Compared with the run of last week the one of a year ago between New York City and Buffalo, known as the "endurance contest," was an unsatisfactory affair, although it was regarded at the time, in the light of the "auto's" former achievements, as fairly successful. Out of the eighty odd vehicles then engaged only forty-one, or about one-half, finished within the time limit. Allowance must be made, however, for the wretched condition of the highways, caused by heavy rains. But even when we take into account the fact that the record of the reliability run, although made under more favorable conditions, indicates improvement in our machines. The percentages of performance obtained in the recent trial, which covered a distance of nearly 500 miles, were well high as satisfactory as those shown heretofore in much shorter runs of the New York club and also of other similar clubs in various parts of this country. Indeed, it is believed that no event of

a like nature in Europe has been so successful, in all important respects. The tire problem, which has sorely vexed the manufacturers of Europe as well as those of our own country, still remains to be solved. The strain upon the tires of such heavy machines, particularly when turning, is tremendous, and the replacements found necessary during the run were numerous. In fact, the tires of the present appear to be further from perfection than any other feature of the horseless conveyances.

Out of the sixty-eight vehicles which finished last Wednesday, twenty, according to unofficial report, came through without violating any of the prescribed rules. Hence, it would seem, upon first thought, as if honors should be equally divided among this number of successful competitors. But considering that the number of prizes for "perfect scores" is limited to four, this number including the "President's cup" much discussion has arisen as to which of the twenty so-called winners should receive the trophies. In order to settle this question the records of the twenty successful cars will, of course, be reviewed with extreme care and deliberation by the committee. The machines' weight, size, carrying capacity and the manner in which they were controlled under adverse conditions will count in the summing up. Since the test was primarily intended to reveal the practicability of the machine for everyday use, when they are more apt to be driven by novices than by professional chauffeurs, it would seem as if greater credit should be given to the skill exhibited by the former, or non-professional operator, than to the acknowledged expert. But this matter may be safely left in the hands of those authorized to decide it.

The test has proved that the automobile of to-day, in the hands of an intelligent operator, is a safe and reasonably stanch vehicle. But this must not be construed to mean that there is not plenty of room for improvement.

Mr. Mitchell's Letter to the President.

We see two points of special interest in Mr. JOHN MITCHELL's letter to President ROOSEVELT. The first of them appears in this sentence:

"We forgive our opponents their arrogant refusal to deal with us."

This is worth noticing because the charge of arrogance on the part of the operators was heard in great volume and on almost all sides throughout the strike, even from observers apparently anxious to avoid the appearance of encouraging lawlessness. The public notion that the operators had done wrong had undoubtedly a great influence on the contest.

Were the operators "arrogant" when they refused to arbitrate? Did they assert rights not theirs, or seek to encroach on Mr. MITCHELL's, or in any way overstep the bounds of proper conduct? Is the public with the accuser or the accused in respect to this charge of arrogance?

We don't ask any who have seen arrogance in the operators' refusal to arbitrate to say whether the miners would have been arrogant if the latter had thought best not to arbitrate the price of their labor. But if business men can not follow their own judgment and their rights under the law without the upspringing of a popular clamor that commands and effects practically a paralysis of their judgment and a nullification of their rights, then the entire business world must pause for serious reflection.

The second point we have in mind is this:

"We forgive them even the false accusations which they have made against us. They charged us with being criminals, rioters and anarchists, and our organization they denounced as 'lawless and irresponsible.' They know and did know that their charges were untrue and without foundation in fact; they know that every officer of the United Mine Workers of America, from the president down, has constantly urged upon its membership the imperative need of respecting the laws, and even men who commit a deed of violence is an enemy to our cause, has been our watchword."

The list of crimes or lesser outrages to be found in the history of this strike is not, as Mr. MITCHELL says elsewhere, light, but appallingly heavy. But to all denial of union responsibility for violence or show of disrespect of it, no matter what strike evokes it, this portion of the Hillside company employees' letter to the President applies:

"We ask you to remember that no one was ever expelled from this organization for committing a crime or for conduct unbecoming a man when such conduct or crime was against a non-union workman."

This is true, and it is deserving of public attention, particularly on the part of members of labor unions.

The Cloud in the Near East.

It is a mistake to assume that the watched pot never boils. Those who kept their eyes fixed on the troubles in Bulgaria and Serbia which went on for some twenty years after the end of the Crimean War were rewarded at last by witnessing the Czar's interposition on behalf of his co-religionists. It is now about a quarter of a century since the Congress of Berlin tried to solve the Turkish problem, and during the whole of that period there has been friction between the Christian and the Moslem subjects of the Sultan in Macedonia, Albania and Anatolia. Of late, disturbances in Macedonia have taken place on such a scale as to recall those which preceded the Serbian uprising of 1876, and to afford ground for the suspicion that Russian emissaries are again at work. Even more ominous is the report telegraphed from Bucharest, and positively vouched for by a correspondent of the *Daily Mail*, that the Grand Duke NICHOLAS of Russia, during his recent visit to Constantinople, proposed to the Sultan a revival of the Treaty of Unkar-Skelessi, which was concluded in June, 1839, but which, some years later, in deference to the vehement protests of certain European Powers, was abrogated.

It is scarcely credible that such a proposal should have been made, unless Russia was prepared to insist upon its acceptance, the alternative of active hostility being placed distinctly before the Sultan. The practical effect of a revival of the treaty named would be to

make the Ottoman Caliph almost as completely a vassal of the Czar as is the Amir of Bokhara. That treaty was framed, it will be remembered, after Gen. DIEBITSCH, having forced a passage of the Balkans, had Constantinople at his mercy. By the provisions of the instrument, the Porte undertook, at Russia's request, to exclude in time of war all foreign warships from the Black Sea, while Russia, on her part, promised that whenever requested by Turkey she would furnish aid by land and sea forces. The treaty, had it been carried out, would have had two obvious results. In the first place, it would have accostomed the Sultan to rely upon his overlord for defence against foreign aggression and for the maintenance of order in his own dominions; for it should be noted that, at the time when the convention was agreed upon, the Janissaries had been annihilated by Sultan MAHMUD, and the new military system which was to be substituted for them was, as yet, in an incipient state. In the second place, the Treaty of Unkar-Skelessi would have converted the Black Sea into a Russian lake, whence at any moment the Czar's warships might make excursions into the Mediterranean. If such a state of things was looked upon as dangerous sixty years ago, how much more is it now to be dreaded by Great Britain, which the maintenance of maritime communication with India through the Suez Canal has become a matter of momentous import?

It is very doubtful, however, whether British public opinion would sustain the Balfour Government in an effort to persuade the Sultan, by the promise of military and naval aid in certain contingencies, to reject the proposed renewal of the Unkar-Skelessi Treaty. In support of this view THE SUN of yesterday contained a significant quotation from the *London Spectator*. We should keep in view that the Russian Government would be much too apt to make the rejection of its proposal the ostensible ground of war. A *caveat* much more sceptical and, in truth, unassailable is ready to its hand. We refer to the arrears of the pecuniary indemnity for Russia's expenditures in the war of 1877-78, an indemnity which by the Berlin Treaty the Sultan agreed to pay. The Czar has a perfect right to demand the immediate payment of those arrears, but the Sultan notoriously would be unable to comply with the demand. If British public opinion were now pro-Turkish, as it is, or seemed to be, under the Beaconsfield Administration, England might lend the money needed to pay the Sultan's debt, or might even go so far as to protect him against distraintment. The massacres of Armenian Christians, however, have extinguished the last trace of pro-Turkish sentiment in Great Britain, and the Balfour Government would have to base an attempt to intervene between Russia and Turkey on the naked ground of England's interests in Egypt and the Suez Canal.

It is certain that Russia could rely on the support of France in any effort to establish a kind of suzerainty over the Sultan, and there is no reason to suppose that Germany, or either of the other parties to the Triple Alliance, would stand forth in opposition, provided an understanding could be reached concerning the reversionary right to Tripoli and concerning railroad concessions in Anatolia and Mesopotamia.

This reported countermove in the direction of Constantinople looks like the Czar's rejoinder to the course pursued by England and Japan in compelling Russia's evacuation of Manchuria.

The Jay and the Box Office.

Somebody who subscribes himself facetiously "An Indignant Jay" sets forth his woes in a letter to the *Kansas City Journal*. His malady is old and common. The ticket sellers at the theatres are gruff and testy to him; his "pleasure is sadly marred by the hirings he bought admission of." This is no philosophic spirit. His enjoyment of the play should be all the greater on account of the difficulty he had in getting in. The "proud porter," an old character of balladry, has his moral and aesthetic uses; and paradise should be all the happier for the remembrance of the surliness of the gatekeeper. If the gods of the box office are not always as sweet as summer to the public, it must be from loyalty to tradition and a feeling for contrast.

According to an editorial article in the *Kansas City Journal*, "when it comes to downright cashishness and impertinence, the average theatre ticket seller takes the cake." Doubtless this is a verjuiced view, although the playgoers of many cities will agree that there is some fire behind this smoke. Blessed are the meek; and who needs meekness more than the humble petitioner at the ticket wicket? Yet we have run across some urbane and patient persons on the inner side of that lordly place. As a rule, the less pretensions the theatre the more milk of kindness in the ticket man; but there are fashionable theatres where the wind from the box office is not always east.

Very tender juvenals rule, at least a part of the time, in some box offices, and of them the wise fight shy. We have no uncontrollable hankering to have a springing sass in the wicious pride of his youth. The situation is too tempting to the boy in office. He is intrenched against invasion. The love of power is still fresh in him; and he abuses his opportunities. Still, comfort may be got even by his victims. In a New York theatre, since rebuilt, the curve of the balcony was such that certain seats in it didn't command a view of the stage. Asking the boy there once if the seats he offered us were of those, he commanded us with loud impudence thus: "Aw, git it de aisle!" The remark was scarcely needed, but it gave great joy to the policeman in attendance and, upon reflection, to ourselves. We had no right to take up the time of the young man. He had his friends to talk to and there was a baseball game in progress. Besides, in duty to his employers he had to sell those seats. Our inquiry touched him on a tender nerve. We thought of these things and forgave him.

at the theatre that night. We had plenty of chance to think, for we couldn't see the actors.

There was a lovely, airy youth in another theatre who was always counting money or reading a newspaper when you came in the afternoon. We have seen a half dozen of people waiting for him. The rogue didn't do the thing well. He was only imitating imperturbability and there was always a conscious look in his eye when he condescended to resume his labors. We have never understood why he wasn't slain. Probably he is a manager and consequently wealthy by this time. At a very distinguished theatre the other day the ticket seller, a perfectly polite man, was talking to two members of the "perish," talking not about the art of acting, but that of pacing and the performances of the four-legged Sam Patch. Four or five customers had collected. Returning to the world, he bowed and said to the customers, "I beg your pardon, can I do anything for you?" It had occurred to him that he was supposed to be there for business and not for pleasure. For obvious reasons, ticket sellers have many friends, and no class is more devoted to its friends.

Shut the best of us in an alcove, screened from the wrath of the public, and with that public measurably dependent upon our good graces, and who knows what we should become? If the ticket seller gives a rough look with his tongue or slams down the plan of the house as if he were "handing" you an uppercut, remember his position. Remember that he is a lonely and cynical man of boy. He doesn't go to the show. He must get very weary of seeing other people go. Besides, the public is crazy to buy tickets, and it is no pleasure of his to sell them. We hold him to be an estimable character in private life, but he has been a little hardened by contact with the world. He is bored and badgered. Think of how long it takes most women to buy a ticket!

And after all, grant that some few box office bosses are lofty and sour to the populace, are their manners worse than the public manners of New York? For particulars, see elevated and surface cars. Finally, clear your mind of bran. Do you suppose that the ticket seller is there to sell to *you*? You were never more mistaken. He is there to tell you that the house is "sold out," all but rows Y and Z. A box office is an office where tickets are not habitually sold, except, in some cases, to speculators.

P. S. If there are any seats on sale at the box office, be considerably politer than a basket of chips, and if you are snubbed in any way, say "thank you!" and bow. We have never yet seen a ticket seller who was proof against continued and a little overdone courtesy. If you want a pretty good seat, ask him to give you one behind a post. If you are going to take a lady, tell him you want two seats with a post between them. If you want a "whiskey seat" near the stage, tell him you are going to take JONAS B. GOVATO to the show. The young man is human and can't resist an appeal put in the right way.

The Hon. BIRD SIM COLEK virtually repudiates the Democratic plank for Government ownership of coal mines, and the Hon. DAVID BENNETT HILL vigorously affirms it. As Mr. COLEK is unquestionably his party's candidate for Governor, the question is: Who is Boss?

Some of our esteemed but erring contemporaries speak patronizingly and encouragingly of the eclipse of the moon last week and call it "a great omen." It was nothing of the kind. The Forehead of the mighty MANXMAN, the Hon. HALL CATSK, was speeding toward these happy shores, and the Forehead was in opposition.

The Brow of CATSK, Gleaned over the moon.

At CATSK and his thorns in the moon. At CATSK, at least, there was no eclipse; and in Chinatown Mr. CATSK's friend, correspondent and literary adviser, the Hon. CHUCK CONNORS, cried in expectation: "We don't need no moon nor no lanterns. Git inter yer smoked ginkler. The Headlight is comin'. Are yez enter der 'Brand of Caine'?"

The people have gained a significant victory, because it has been demonstrated that a gigantic trick can be made to lead to their wishes. Boston Globe.

Isn't that uncomfortably suggestive of mob rule?

In regard to champagne, the vintage of 1902 can only be described as deplorable. *London Dispatch*, Oct. 20.

Still, there will be "champagne," even if the vintage is poor and although all the stocks of past vintages should be exhausted. There will be Mississippi and Amazonas of lobsterland. If every man, woman and child on this globe should enjoy a glass of "champagne" cocktails for breakfast and a mug of "champagne" for dinner, there would still be immeasurable seas of this inexhaustible staple. The Devil knows where it comes from, but 'tis as easy as lying. The River of Champagne surrounds and intersects Lobsterland. What saith the bard?

Oh a jolly, jolly lobster, So giddy and so fine, My heart's delight by day and night Is opening of wine."

From a Friend of Ida C. Craddock.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN: Sir, I wish to add my testimony and tribute through the columns of your paper to the Craddock, whom I knew for five years.

No one could ever be more pure in thought, word or deed than was this noble woman, honest and conscientious to the point of self-sacrifice, and whose belief in the right of the present day is so much needed as hers. Her life was a lesson to all of us who are not yet old enough to die.

I wish that some one may yet take up the work laid down and for which she was devoted. The comfort of life, living, eating and sleeping in one room, all the while being surrounded by the human form, may be the worst of all. I wish that the right of free speech and freedom of thought would be recognized in the so-called land of the free as my prayer.

New York, Oct. 19. DR. M. E. SELLER.

Severance.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN: Sir, I noticed in this morning's edition of the *Sun* the suggestion of Mr. BUDAS CASTER of Southern Plains, N. M., in Thursday's issue to the effect that in lieu of coal we should use the electricity of power which is pouring out upon the country and not be wasteful by burning it in two forms.

It is a very good suggestion, and I am sure it will be adopted. C. H. HARRIS, Pleasant N. D., Oct. 19.

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PRESIDENT AND STRIKES.

Meaning of the Precedent Set by Mr. Roosevelt.

From the *Galveston News*.

When President Roosevelt summoned before him the contending parties in the coal strike he acted beyond the pale of the Constitution and in defiance of the fundamental principles of our institutions: he assumed powers of intervention and dictation exercised at the present day by comparatively few monarchs.

Immediately after the abortive hearing the President called together the available members of his Cabinet and the Commissioner of Labor to discuss the matter, thereby removing even the pretence that his intervention had been strictly unofficial.

If this extraordinary precedent is to be followed, if future Presidents at their whim and fancy are to call contending parties before them to arbitrate differences, the White House tribunal will become more potent than the Supreme Court, since it can enforce its mandates by vague threats of action on the part of the Department of Justice, of extra sessions and of other steps and proceedings unknown to the regularly constituted tribunals.

There is this extension of Executive power to "day" there is a coal strike in Pennsylvania, to enforce a railway strike in Illinois, the next day an electric strike in New York, and so on until the one strike tribunal will be the White House for how can the President intervene in one strike and refuse to do so in another? Are the people of this country to be subjected to the exercise of a function so foreign to the office and so certain of abuse?

The inevitable consequences of the step taken by President Roosevelt, if unrevoked, are not at present appreciated because the step is so extraordinary, but when reflection will convince all classes and the laboring classes first—that intervention by the President in controversies between labor and capital will be productive of untold mischief.

In any given controversy a President would intervene either with or without a hearing of both sides on the merits. If he enters into both and exerts his power, he is clearly usurping functions which are foreign to his office and which no one has invited him to exercise as a citizen. If he intervenes without investigating the merits, his action is not only unwarranted and unreasonable, but is an abuse of his exalted position, for were it not for his official position the contending parties would pay no attention to him. It being only the fear of what he can do as President which makes his arbitrary conduct of any consequence.

After the Storm.

From the *Louisville Courier-Journal*.

The threatened strike that were to come in every branch of industry from the anthracite strike has failed to materialize to any material effect. According to Bradstreet's not more than 20,000 workmen have been rendered idle outside of the miners themselves, and even this estimate does not allow for the extra employment given to the bituminous miners and in their collateral industries.

Industry has practically bridged over the change from hard to soft coal. Even if the mines are never touched again the country can get along. Some time the anthracite fields will be exhausted at the best, and then we shall be forced to wait what we can do now. The people of this country are resourceful enough to meet even so serious a misfortune as would be the entire shutting down of the mines, though that is not probable.

Federal Troops and Strikers.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN: Sir, Can't you call the kettle black? Compare sections 63, 64 and 65 of the law enacted during the last session of Congress to create a Philippine government, with the silly "eminent domain" clause of the recent Democratic platform constructed at Saratoga.

When the history of section 4 of Article IV of the Federal Constitution, the law of May 2, 1792, approved by Washington, that of 1807, approved by Jefferson, that of July 29, 1861, approved by Lincoln, that of June 18, 1878, approved by Hayes and enacted in order to stop the use of the army as a posse to control industry, has been carefully studied, the idea will probably dawn on the student that the United States should not go inside a State in order to enforce State laws, unless the State asks the intervention and aid.

And a careful examination of the scope and purpose of the Constitution will also convince the candid student that the President can use the army and navy when, where and how he pleases in order to execute the laws of the United States, and to aid the marshal of any judicial district in enforcement of lawful process placed in his hands by any Federal Judge, and that Congress cannot deprive the President of that prerogative power so long as Federal Judges, marshals, an army and navy shall exist.

The intention of the Fourteenth Amendment has not modified former theories in that relation, because it made each State to enact and enforce certain laws by declaring them null and void if enacted. He will also conclude that the Fourteenth Amendment authorized the President to enter a State, uninvited, in order to enforce a State law, or to stop a stop to domestic violence. The section is *pro tunc* in violation of the Constitution.

Enforcing Federal law is one thing, but enforcing Federal law is another thing. The President is not commanded by the Constitution to enforce State laws, nor is he permitted to aid a State, in which is domestic violence, unless the State petitions, but Federal law he must enforce in every State, whether asked or unasked, and Congress can shut him out by repealing the law, or by putting it out of executive officers of every sort, including army, navy and militia. LAW.

New York, Oct. 19.

Foundation Principles.

From the *Tarrytown Argus*.

THE SUN deserves the thanks of the American people for its able and fearless advocacy of law and order and of the foundation principles of all government during the recent coal strike.

The Venus of Milo Restored.

From the *Criticism*.

The man rigging and the mast caught fire. Fortunately this accident, which might easily have involved a great tragedy, occurred in the middle of the day when there were plenty of men about on the deck. All Arctic explorers keep a large hole open in the ice beside their vessels so that they may have plenty of water with which to extinguish fire. This precaution had, of course, been taken, and so the men were able to subdue the flames; but the *Fram* had never before been so near destruction. A considerable number of musk ox and bear skins were destroyed.

Sverdrup has undoubtedly considerably extended our knowledge of a region whose exploration promised rich rewards. His map will be an important contribution to the improvement of the atlas sheets of this part of the Arctic. In popular interest it cannot be expected that these explorations will equal the remarkable sledging journey by which Peary has revealed the limits of the north and northwestern extension of the land masses to the north of Greenland; but the sum total of the new work done by Peary and Sverdrup forms the richest contribution to our knowledge of the unknown regions of the Arctic there has been for a long while.

Her Present Family.

From the *Washington (D.C.) Journal*.

A schoolteacher visiting in a nearby city was a guest at a party the other day, and a lady to whom she had been introduced did not catch the name, and, supposing she was married, asked: "How many children did you say you have?" "Well, only forty now," was the reply that nearly staggered the questioner.

A Monster Mushroom.

From the *Winchester (Ky.) Democrat*.

John S. Reese showed us Saturday a giant mushroom, four inches in circumference and weighing seven and a half pounds. It was found near Nashville. It was an edible variety and had made enough to feed a big family.

The Janitor Question.

Now that the bus is over, grate about the free, and then unto the janitor to come and bend the knee.

SVERDRUP'S ARCTIC WORK.

He Has Made Important Discoveries to the West of Ellesmere Land.

Capt. Sverdrup has sent a long telegraphic report to the London Times on the discoveries which the *Fram* expedition has made on the west coast of Ellesmere Land, and among hitherto unknown islands in the polar sea to the west of that region. His purpose was to ascend the channels through Smith Sound and ascertain the extension of Greenland toward the north and whether this great Arctic land finally breaks into groups of islands in the north. His inability to push the *Fram* through the ice of these channels in the summers of 1898 and 1899 caused a complete change in his plans, and after he had given up the hope of reaching the high northern latitude he had in view, he turned southward to Jones Sound, south of Ellesmere Land, where all his work was done during the last two years of his stay in the Arctic.

While the *Fram* was still in the ice of the Smith Sound channel, however, he sent sledging parties to the southwest over the inland ice of Ellesmere Land. Three of these parties succeeded in adding much to our information of the interior of this large region, which had never been penetrated by any of the earlier explorers. They found in the more southerly part of Ellesmere Land a great glacier district, while the country further to the north is free from ice. Sverdrup also succeeded in making a map of Hayes Sound, which penetrates deeply into the land between Ellesmere Land on the south and Arthur Land on the north.

Sverdrup left Smith Sound on Aug. 27, 1899, and took the *Fram* into Jones Sound, where he spent the winter on the south side of Ellesmere Land, about half way up the sound between Baffin Bay and Belcher Channel. He did not succeed during the remainder of his stay in forcing the *Fram* seaward through the ice, and when he was forced to leave the ice he was in the part of Jones Sound. All his later explorations, which were rich in results, were made by sledging parties.

One of his first discoveries was that the southeastern part of the Ellesmere Land coast line does not curve northward, as shown on Inglediel's map, but extends a considerable distance in a true westerly direction. Sledging westward along the sound was at all times difficult, and he had to cut on account of the rugged ice. In many places there were pressure ridges where the ice was heaped high and had to be worked through with pick axes and spades to make a passage for the sledges. At other places the ice would be quite smooth.

On the southeast coast of Ellesmere Land, north of Jones Sound, an enormous bay was discovered about 100 miles in length and penetrating into Ellesmere. On the northern side of this bay large and complicated floods are situated. The south coast of Ellesmere extends about fifty miles west of this bay, after which it runs in a north and northwesterly direction.

On the west coast of Ellesmere Land, in about 80° west, a large system of floods was discovered. The neighborhood around these floods is probably the part of Ellesmere Land that most abounds in game. Musk oxen, reindeer and wolves are very plentiful.

In about 78° north a sound was found separating North Cornwall from a tract of new lands situated to the north. These lands are about 130 miles north of the Parry Islands, the most northern land previously discovered in this part of the polar sea. On the west coast of one of the islands the explorers looked out far to the west without seeing any more islands. They reached the northern coast, and here also, looking to the north, they could see nothing but the rough polar ice. All the new lands discovered in this neighborhood, in contrast with Ellesmere Land, are rather low, the highest reaching not over 1,000 feet.

The mapping of the southwest and western coasts of Ellesmere Land and the discovery of these islands to the north of Parry Archipelago, are the main fruits of the *Fram* expedition. Throughout their work the explorers were able to capture sufficient walrus for dog meat, and a considerable number of musk oxen provided the explorers with plenty of fresh food. A sledging expedition was sent down Wellington Channel to Beechey Island in order to secure certain supplies of which they were very much in need from the cache of the English expedition, planted there many years ago. The supply depot, however, was found to have been destroyed, probably by polar bears, and only a part of the house remained standing.

When Sverdrup returned from one of his sledging expeditions, in May, 1900, he learned the very exciting news that the *Fram* had been in the greatest danger of being wholly destroyed by a fire. The *Fram* had been ignited by a spark from the funnel and was soon entirely enveloped in flames. The kayaks, or sealskin boats, stored under the awning, as well as an inflammable material, burned fiercely. An iron tank containing about 200 liters of spirits stood in the middle of the fire.

The main rigging and the mast caught fire. Fortunately this accident, which might easily have involved a great tragedy, occurred in the middle of the day when there were plenty of men about on the deck. All Arctic explorers keep a large hole open in the ice beside their vessels so that they may have plenty of water with which to extinguish fire. This precaution had, of course, been taken, and so the men were able to subdue the flames; but the *Fram* had never before been so near destruction. A considerable number of musk ox and bear skins were destroyed.

Sverdrup has undoubtedly considerably extended our knowledge of a region whose exploration promised rich rewards. His map